

# **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A hybrid telecommunications component in accordance with the principles of the present invention affords loopback test capabilities across boundaries between circuit switched and packet switched components. A loopback test which encompasses at least a portion of the packet switched side of a hybrid system may be initiated from the circuit switched side of the hybrid device. Additionally, a loopback test which encompasses at least a portion of the circuit switched side of a hybrid system may be initiated from the packet switched side of the hybrid device. In an illustrative embodiment, when a loopback test of the circuit switched side is initiated by the packet switched side, the loopback test is carried out by the circuit switched side, with the results being reported by the circuit switched side to the packet switched side.

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